

BULLETIN OF
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THE BULLETIN—A NEW FOCUS,
A NEW LOOK

The New York Academy of Medicine has a new focus for its long-standing mission, enhancing the health of the public. The new focus is urban health, and to implement this new concentration of the energies of the Academy, a full time President has been appointed. In concert with this heightened focus on urban issues, the *Bulletin of The New York Academy of Medicine*, which has a long and distinguished history, will in turn change its focus in 1993 to reflect this new direction taken by its parent.

Urban health issues have both a clinical and a policy focus. For instance, large urban areas, such as New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and San Francisco, are the epicenters of the AIDS epidemic, the problems revolving around resurgent tuberculosis and resistant bacterial strains connected with it, substance abuse and violence. We intend to present articles relevant to clinicians dealing with these new or reemergent clinical health problems. At the same time, there are special, even if not unique, health policy issues related to urban populations: the large number of uninsured, problems in dealing with multiple cultures and languages of immigrant populations, the larger role of the public hospitals and public health departments in urban centers, and special needs for outreach and follow up for disadvantaged populations. Most urban areas have world-famous health science centers, and the relation of these to the provision of primary care is not well understood. Although all of these clinical and policy issues are seen throughout the country, there is a far greater concentration of such problems in our large urban population concentrations, so that solutions must be found through examining our cities if we are to improve significantly the health of large

numbers of our citizens. The *Bulletin* is dedicated to becoming a forum for such urban health issues.

The *Bulletin* will also have a new look, distinctive, yet keeping the same size as in the past. Yes, you will be able to file copies on the same shelf with previous issues of the *Bulletin*! In 1993 we plan to publish the first issue of the new *Bulletin* in late spring, and another in the autumn or early winter. As the numbers of articles of excellence are submitted we will increase the number of issues per year. Excellence and relevance to urban health issues will guide the selection of articles.

As the new Editor-in-Chief of the *Bulletin*, I have tremendous enthusiasm for this opportunity to make a contribution to the health of large numbers of our citizens, and yet I have a sense of the daunting task ahead. With a superb Editorial Board already recruited, I am confident that authors will want to publish their best in the *Bulletin*. I invite them to submit both clinical and policy papers relevant to urban health for our consideration.

The *Bulletin* welcomes submission of original articles concerning urban health issues, both clinical and policy-oriented. They may be submitted to the Editorial Office as follows:

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Our goal is to create a new vehicle for authors and for our readers, both clinicians and policy makers, and to make this publication serve the needs of the urban public—those who live in our large cities.

Robert J. Haggerty, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief

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